United States
Information
Agency

Washington, D.C. 20547

July 29, 1986   **USIA**

MEMORANDUM TO: All Members of the Overseas Security Policy
                    Group (See Distribution)

FROM   :   Bernard C. Dowling βcD
                    Director, Office of Security

SUBJECT   :   OSPG Initiatives

Now that the OSPG has been formally chartered, the Group should
move ahead with its mission to establish uniform security
policies applicable to the entire foreign affairs community.
USIA's Office of Security proposes that the Group discuss the
following issues and additional goals and objectives to the
charter at its next scheduled meeting:

1.   TRAINING

     From time to time individual member agencies have
arranged intensive training courses for their senior
personnel. The only training currently available
across-the-board to member agency employees are FSI's "Coping
with Violence Abroad," the crisis management exercises, and
State's Mobile Training Team sessions held in the field. It is
suggested that the Group address the issue of a need for
additional training of a) either senior officials, or b) all
personnel departing on assignment to high threat posts.
Training could include weapons familiarization, defensive
driving, surveillance recognition, etc.

2.   EDUCATION

     The Group should address the issue of making available
publications suitable for all foreign service personnel of
member agencies. Such publications would address the most
frequently asked questions on a variety of personal and family
protection issues. USIA's dissemination of the publication "A
Guide to Safe Travel Overseas" received highly complimentary
reviews from headquarters and the field, and filled a need for
information that was not available through existing official
publications.

3.   VEHICLE ARMORING

     The issue of vehicle armoring should be addressed by
the Group. Criteria for a post's eligibility for light
armoring should be determined, and where such armoring is so
warranted individual sections within the mission should not be
allowed to render discretionary determinations on the
desirability of such armoring. Presently, all posts in NEA,

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EU, and AR are eligible, but the policy is not mandatory, and posts located in other geographic areas having significant threats must request armoring on an hoc basis. The policy needs to be equitable for all agencies and consistent with local threats.

4. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

What is the status on the proposed airgram on emergency communications which NSA had initiated? USIA has no record that it was issued and we have comments to make concerning that last draft which was made available to us.

5. RESPONSE TEAMS

During and after a security crisis overseas, repesentatives from member security offices represented at involved posts should be asked to participate in any response teams sent to the area for advice and assistance.

6. AFTER ACTION REPORTS

The Group should agree to a policy of publication of "after action reports" for the Group membership, to be distributed to member agency overseas personnel where appropriate. Such reporting on specific events will educate the community and serve as guidance/advice to security officers. These reports would not assess blame, but establish and outline preventive measures. For example, M/S distributed a telegram to its posts after the takeover of the U.S. Consulate in Pusan [formerly the American Cultural Center] in May. Our advice emphasized the need to test equipment and train guards in contingency plans.

7. INTERIM SECURITY MEASURES

GAO's June 1986 report on embassy security recommended that State Department publish emergency measures which could be implemented at individual posts until permanent barriers or enhancements are instituted. According to the report, State responded that such measures should be left to the ingenuity of its officers on the local scene. It is suggested that the Group address the compilation of such interim measures for the information of all agencies, as well as RSOs.

8. TRAVEL ADVICE

Previous meetings of the Group included discussions on travel, to include the advisability of using personal vice diplomatic/official passports for official travelers, but no uniform policy with respect to this issue has been promulgated by the Group. Most agencies have issued instructions

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concerning the issue, but such advice differs between agencies. During the April-May 1986 Libyan threat crisis, we understand some member agencies, as well as private companies, declared certain countries and airports "off limits," whereas other member agencies provided little or no guidance. The Group should agree on travel advice policies and issue them jointly to all member agency personnel.

9. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Objectives cited in the Group's charter should be tackled jointly by Group members, using the working group approach initially so successful, such as the residential policy. Of late, State has tended to present the group with action memoranda, and solicit the Group's approval by vote, but, the members' overall activity level as equal partners with State has been low. The Group should establish working groups representative of interested agencies to move ahead on objectives cited in the charter and set timetables for issuing policy statements on those objectives.

10. SECURITY EXCEPTIONS COMMITTEE

The Group should participate in deliberations of the Department's Security Exceptions Committee when exceptions from acceptable standards, such as the 100 foot setback requirement, are at issue concerning buildings to be occupied by member agencies.

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USIA

Dear Lou:

At the last meeting of the Overseas Security Policy Group, the Department solicited Group comments on two documents, both of which have already been disseminated to the field. They are State 183374 (LOU) regarding Security at Overseas Schools, and a DSS publication titled Standards for Security Program Design (LOU). We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments to make:

<u>Security at Overseas Schools</u>

We support the document in its totality. It would have been appropriate, however, to solicit comments in advance of its June 11, 1986 distribution, rather than after the fact.

<u>Standards for Security Program Design</u>

This undated document we find difficult to read and off putting, particularly through use of the term "matrix." We are unsure of the intended recipient, as Section 3.1 defines the role of the RSO, whereas normally we would assume the handbook had been designed for the RSO, who should know his defined duties.

Page one of the document indicates that the standards listed in the publication "apply to all facilities and personnel under the control of the Ambassador." That includes USIA facilities, yet our perusal of the handbook resulted in our locating only one cursory mention of USIA establishments (Section 3.1 relating to RSO responsibilties vis-a-vis USIS and bi-national centers). Subsequent clarification from DSS indicates the document is meant to address embassy security only.

We believe the handbook must address the existence of separate standards for USIA establishments, outlined in M/S' publication titled "Physical Security Standards," which was approved by DSS and which has been disseminated to all RSOs, ADS', ESCs, and Washington elements having a need to know.

Mr. Louis Schwartz, Jr.
Director
Diplomatic Security Service
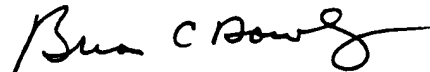Department of State
Washington, D.C.   20520

Section 4 of the handbook should be augmented to include the M/S document as a reference when dealing with VOA radio relay stations, libraries, bi-national centers, exhibits and similar affairs to which the public is invited, as well as other USIA facilities. In addition, the handbook should address the need for flexibility in the application of its desirable standards, particularly when applying those standards to USIA facilities, where creation of an open and free atmosphere conducive to the exchange of information is vital to the mission of this agency.

In his July 16, 1986 testimony before the House of Representatives Subcommittee on International Operations Mr. Edwin J. Feulner Jr., Chairman the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, expressed his pleasure that the Secretary of State has said differing security standards should be applied to USIA, and welcomed his call for the Department to work closely with the Agency. The Commission recommended to Congress and the President that State Department policies on diplomatic security "take fully into account USIA's public diplomacy mission, the need for relatively free public access to USIA's libraries and information centers, and the desirability that USIA give visible evidence of the free and open society it represents."

We appreciate the opportunity to review these documents and ensure that the special needs of this agency are addressed, where appropriate.
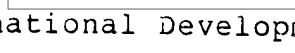
Sincerely,

Bernard C. Dowling
Director
Office of Security

cc: All OSPG Members
         Central Intelligence Agency –   STAT
         Defense Intelligence Agency –
         National Security Agency –   STAT
      United States Agency for International Development
         -IG/SEC -E. Lee
         United States Department of Commerce – Mr. Cassetta
         United States Department of Justice – Mr. Rubino
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